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Date: 8/30/2018 6:37:12 AM

Subject: PDI Sediment Core SC-S113

Attachments: [SC-S113.pdf](#)

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Hi Davis,

During our review of the subsurface coring data we identified potential data integrity issues with core SC-S113, which is in the Gasco sediment area (RM 6.3W). This core was initially attempted on 8/6/18, and the upper ~3 feet of the core was spilled on the deck of the vessel. The remaining portion of this core (3.6 ft to 13.8 ft) was stored at the field lab until it was processed on 8/15/18 (9 days after collection).

A second coring attempt at SC-S113 was conducted on 8/14/18 and only recovered 5.4 ft of sediment. The 8/14 core was processed as the "upper section" and the 8/6 core was processed as the "bottom section" at this location.

Potential issues compromising these cores include:

- 9 days from collection to processing for "bottom section" of core
- Lack of precise information for how much material was spilled from the top of the 8/6 core
- 8/14 core only represents first 5.4 ft of sediment
- Potential data issues linking these two distinct sediment cores as one core location

I've attached the sediment core logs from this location for your convenience. Also included is an email to Ken for you to review/modify. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,

**Kyle Vickstrom, E.I.**

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Ken,

EPA has been reviewing the subsurface coring data provided on the SharePoint site and have identified the following data integrity issues with core SC-S113 (RM 6.3W):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Coring Attempt (8/6/18)
  - Top ~ 3 ft of the retained core were spilled on the deck of the vessel.
  - Remaining core (3.6 ft to 13.8 ft) was held at the field lab until being processed as the "bottom section" of the combined core
  - Core processing occurred on 8/15/18, which is 9 days after the core was collected
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Coring Attempt (8/14/18)
  - Only 5.4 ft of sediment was recovered
  - Recovered core was processed as the "top section" of the combined core

EPA considers the results from SC-S113 to be compromised due to combining two separate coring attempts into one "composite" core and the 9 days from core collection to core processing for the 8/6/18 "bottom section." This location should be attempted again to achieve the target depth of 15 ft, which is feasible given the recovered sediment from the initial coring attempt. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,

Davis

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